

### Testimony for SB0129

My name is Angie Calderon, and I am a student at Northwood High School in Montgomery County. I am also a member of Fans of Immigration and Asylum Reform, or FAIR, a student-advocacy group in Montgomery County which advocates for humane detention policies and reformation of the immigration and asylum system.

I am writing to you today to urge you to support SB0129: Access to Counsel in Immigration Proceedings. This bill ensures that immigrants who are detained in Maryland and facing deportation are given access to legal representation. Currently, 7 out of 10 detained Marylanders are not able to access counsel. This is extremely unethical. The process of detention is traumatic in of itself, there is no need for detainees or their families to go through court processes without legal representation. FAIR believes in universal representation: the right of ALL people to due process under the law. Detainees are not animals nor monsters, they are human beings who deserve equal legal representation.

I urge you to support SB0129. Our state is counting on you.